

Message Text

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FOR EPA FROM ANDREW M. CARAKER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV OCON UR US

SUBJ: US-USSR ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT: WATER POLLUTION
PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF DISCHARGES

1. DELEGATIONS OF SPECIALISTS FROM US AND USSR IN FIELD
OF PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF DISCHARGES MET IN SOVIET
UNION DEC 3-17. HIGHLIGHTS OF PROTOCOL SIGNED DEC 17 IN
MOSCOW FOLLOW:

A. PROCEEDINGS OF MEETING WILL BE PUBLISHED
SIMILTANEOUSLY IN US AND USSR IN ENGLISH AND RUSSIAN,
RESPECTIVELY, WITHIN FOUR MONTHS. EACH SIDE WILL SEEK
WIDEST POSSIBLE DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEEDINGS TO
SCIENTISTS, INSITITUTIONS AND OTHERENTITIES ENGAGED IN
FIELD OF TREATMENT AND PREVENTION OF DISCHARGES.

B. DELEGATION OF SOVIET SPECIALISTS WILL VISIT US
IN JULY, 1974, FOR AN OVERVIEW VISIT OF KIND AFFORDED
US DELEGATION DURING ITS CURRENT VISIT. US AND USSR
DELEGATIONS AT JULY MEETING WILL DEVELOP A PROPOSED
DETAILED PROGRAM OF COOPERATION TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY
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PROPOSED NEW WORKING GROUP ON POLLUTION PREVENTION
FROM MUNICIPAL AND INDUSTRIAL SOURCE.

C. DELEGATIONS ENDORSED RECOMMENDATION OF JOINT COMMISSION THAT NEW WORKING GROUP BE ESTABLISHED AND EXPRESSED THEIR DESIRE THAT NEW WORKING GROUP BE CONSTITUTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. DELEGATIONS FURTHER RECOMMENDED THAT PRINCIPAL AREAS OF COOPERATION ON WASTE TREATMENT TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY WORKING GROUP SHOULD FALL INTO FOLLOWING FIVE CATEGORIES: MUNICIPAL; PULP AND PAPER; CHEMICAL AND PETROCHEMICAL; PETROLEUM REFINING; AND METALLURGY. DELEGATION PROPOSED THAT NEW WORKING GROUP CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL AT ITS FIRST MEETING DETAILED PROGRAM PROPOSALS DEVELOPED AT JULY, 1974 MEETING OF US AND USSR SPECIALISTS.

2. COMMENT: FINAL PROTOCOL AGREES TO AND PROPOSES SIGNIFICANTLY LESS THAN US DELEGATION WAS PREPARED TO UNDERTAKE. DUE TO BUREAUCRATIC AND JURISDICTIONAL QUESTIONS STILL UNRESOLVED, USSR DELEGATION WAS LIMITED IN ITS ABILITY TO MOVE IN NEW DIRECTIONS, PARTICULARLY WITH RESPECT TO FUNCTIONS AND STRUCTURE OF NEW WORKING GROUP WHICH US DELEGATION HAD OUTLINED IN GREAT DETAIL IN ITS PROTOCOL DRAFT. DESPITE SOME EARLY DISAPPOINTMENT ON US SIDE THAT MORE CONCRETE STEPS COULD NOT BE UNDERTAKEN, US DELEGATION CONSIDER THAT FINAL PROTOCOL IS A REASONABLE COMPROMISE BETWEEN TWO SIDES' INITIAL POSITIONS, AND THAT IT ESTABLISHES A SOUND BASE FOR FUTURE COOPERATIVE WORK. END.SOMMERLATTE

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